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Ninth Infantry Division Association

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Recommended Citation

Ninth Infantry Division Association, "The Octofoil, October 1957" (1957). *The Octofoil*. 103.
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THE OCTOFOIL

Volume 11
Number 8

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

One Year \$1.50
Single Copy, 15 cents

Livingston, N. J. Post Office Box 66

October, 1957

Group Insurance Plan Now Offered To Association Members

13th Annual Memorial Mass

November 10th, 1957 is the date. . .

Immaculate Conception Church is the place

10:00 A.M. is the time. . .

Once again we have received a letter from Father Connors and we are happy to reprint its contents for the benefit of our readers who are not on Father Connors' list. So without further adieu. . .
Dear Friend,

On Sunday, November 10, at 10 a.m., the thirteenth Annual Memorial Mass will be offered for the deceased men of the Ninth Infantry Division.

For the past five years this Memorial Service has been held in the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Massachusetts. This year it will again be in the Immaculate Conception Church, but in a new church at a new site. The new site is a half mile further north on Grove Street at Chadwick Square.

Again, we invite all — Infantrymen, Artillerymen, Engineers, Medics, "Special Troopers" — men of all Faiths — as we gather to pray for our dead, to pray for the bereaved, to pray for one another. I send out 800 letters to former 9th Division men. If you know of others, send the word along to them. Above all, if you know any of the bereaved, who might wish to receive word of our Memorial Mass, would you send me their names and addresses.

Come yourself, encourage other 9th Division men, your wife — and many now are bringing their children. Incidentally, I have been assured that the Restaurant will give a special price for the children at the Sunday Luncheon.

As usual, Connors' Coffee Shop, the parish hall, will be open Saturday evening. You will be my guests — and members of the parish are looking forward to serving you.

If you wish a room reservation, let me know, or write directly to the Bancroft Hotel.

Here is the lineup —

**SATURDAY EVENING - NOVEMBER 9 — Seven o'clock
to midnight — CONNORS' COFFEE SHOP**
(the hours of Charm)

**SUNDAY MORNING — NOVEMBER 10 — Ten o'clock
MEMORIAL MASS 12:30 — Dinner at Putnam
and Thurston's Restaurant (center of town)**

Every blessing to all. Again, may I encourage you to pray for one another. Each year I look forward joyfully and gratefully to our Memorial gathering.

Keep our helmet on — and I still have not made Monsignor!

Sincerely yours,

(Rev.) E. T. Connors

P.S. It is inspiring to see so many Catholic men at the Communion railing.

Available to and for Active Div'n Ass'n Men and Women Only

For the past year a survey of various group insurance plans have been investigated. The primary purpose of this investigation was to secure a group type insurance plan that would fit the pocket of each and every member of our association.

A sample group type insurance plan was presented to the National Convention in Boston and this type of insurance plan was indorsed by the convention at large. Your National Secretary was instructed to carry on with his initial investigation to establish the best plan available. Since August 1, 1957, additional surveys have been carried out with the sole purpose of bettering the plan that was originally presented.

We have what we believe to be the best group type plan of insurance that has been offered to the Ninth Infantry Division thus far. We have been counseled all along the line by competent insurance executives and we have been assured that our choice of companies is the best.

From past data that we have assembled we learned that they are one of the leading insurance companies in the United States. Their financial background is sound and we believe that these figures will establish their soundness. For example: The Capital and Surplus of this firm is over (\$5) million dollars and the total insurance in force is 400 million dollars.

To further substantiate the value of this insurance company, Courant (The trade magazine of the Insurance Industry rates this company as follows. Of all the insurance companies in the United States handling this type of particular group insurance they are rated in the top 100 companies. They have admitted assets of over 62 million dollars. They now have group insurance in force (actually carried on their books) amounting to 400 million dollars.

We have asked two private insurance investigating organizations to give us an insurance report of this company. The following is a summation of both reports.

DUNNE'S INSURANCE REPORTS (Dunne's is an independent organization. It is not connected with any insurance company in any way. Its sole function is to prepare and publish impartial and factual analyses of insurance company finances for the benefit of policy-holders. It is the largest policyholders' reporting service in the world.)

"As of January 1, 1957, Dunne's rates this company A PLUS (EXCELLENT) "Their recommendation was based on a financial analysis as of December 31, 1956 and appraisal of its management they conclude that this company is worthy of public confidence."

BEST'S LIFE INSURANCE REPORTS (For more than 50 years Best's has been serving the Insurance field with factual and

unbiased reporting). "The results achieved by this company have been most favorable. In our opinion it has most substantial over all margins for contingencies. Upon the foregoing analysis of its present position we recommend this company."

You can therefore see from the above reports that we are doing business with a very reliable and substantial outfit. We therefore believe that we can say to our membership here at last is something of real tangible value. A chance to participate with us that mutually benefits all of us as a team.

In addition to the above report we have drawn our heads together and have tried to anticipate some questions regarding this group type insurance plan.

If your question is not answered, write to us and we will have answers for any and all questions about this type of insurance.

Now here is our presentation of questions and answers. . .

ACTUAL PLAN

We have attempted to secure all the possible questions that you might have about this operation and will list both questions and answers in the following order.

1) WHAT IS GROUP TYPE INSURANCE?

It is a modern plan of life insurance designed especially to provide good life insurance protection to members of associations and professional groups at rates considerably lower than those of other plans. There must be at least 20 approved applications for a minimum of \$50,000 of insurance before an agreement can be issued to an organization.

2) WHO CAN BE INSURED UNDER THE PLAN?

Group coverage is offered to organization members in good standing. If you are not paid up for 1957, you cannot qualify.

3) HOW LONG WILL I HAVE PROTECTION UNDER THE PLAN?

For the rest of your life. The plan provides continuous Term insurance automatically renewable while membership continues, at

pre-established premiums as shown on the rate chart.

4) CAN THE INSURANCE COMPANY TERMINATE MY INSURANCE?

No, the policy provides NON-CANCELABLE insurance while premiums are paid and membership continues.

5) DOES THE AMOUNT OF INSURANCE REDUCE WITH AGE?

No, unless you reduce it yourself. (CANNOT BE REDUCED BELOW \$2,000.)

6) IS THERE A GRACE PERIOD?

Yes, there is a grace period of 31 days during which your organization can transmit your premium to the company.

7) IF I LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION, WHAT BECOMES OF MY INSURANCE? DO I LOSE IT?

Not necessarily, because within 31 days after cessation of your membership you can convert your insurance without examination to any other form of ordinary insurance except Term or other plans not issued in amounts as small as the amount to be converted.

8) IS A MEDICAL EXAMINATION REQUIRED?

No medical examination is required of applicants under 41 years of age where the application offers satisfactory evidence of insurability. All applicants 41 and over must be examined regardless of amount applied for. Your age at issue determines the maximum amount of insurance allowable. (Minimum is \$2,000.)

1-40	\$10,000	\$10,000
41-50	None	10,000
51-60	None	5,000
61-65	None	2,000

9) Do I have to be examined at each or any renewal?

No, the original approval of your application is the only requirement.

10) To Whom Do I Pay PREMIUMS?

You pay premiums to your organization and the organization, (Continued on page 2)

THE OCTOFOIL

Editorial and Executive Offices, Livingston, N. J.
Form Cards 3878 should be sent to P. B. Box 66, Livingston, N.J.
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The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association with offices located at 9 Orchard Lane, Livingston, N. J. Single copy price is 15 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year, payable in advance. Subscribers should notify the Livingston Office promptly of any change of address.

Published each month by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News articles, feature stories, photographs of art material from members will be welcomed and every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition. Please address all communications to the "Octofoil" 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. Post Office Livingston, N. J.

Extract from the certificate of incorporation of the Ninth Infantry Division Association: This Association is formed by the officers and men of the Ninth Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an ever lasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to members and former members of the Division.

Copy and pictures must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication.

Entered as Second class matter at the Post Office Livingston, N.J.

Volume 11 October, 1957 Number 8

EDITORIAL:

A Status Report

Our active membership for the past few years has steadily been fixed at about 1000 more or less. At times we have gone about 1500 or 1000. The total difference of about 500 men is the difference in the cost of operation of the association. Let us for a moment check into this angle. 500 men at \$4.00 a piece represents about \$2000.00. These 500 or so men represent the difference between just making ends meet or running at a loss. Unfortunately these 500 men are good members but they just forget to pay their dues each year. These 500 men pay their dues but are doing it every 2nd and 3rd year. This is the kind of response that hurts us. We don't want to sound off but let us look a moment at the net result. . . Here is our Statement of Income and Expense for July 1, 1956 to June 30, 1957.

INCOME

Dues from Renewal Members	\$3,110.00
Dues from New Members	159.75
Sale of 8 Stars	51.50
Sale of Car Tags	36.00
Sale of Maps	17.00
Sale of Emblems	54.00
Miscellaneous Income	1,034.22
	<hr/>
	\$4,495.47

EXPENSE

Publication of Octofoil	\$1,917.16
Salary of Secretary-Treas.	3,000.00
Postage and Express	502.62
Telephone	249.49
Office Supply and Clerical Service	667.00
Employees Expense	207.93
Board of Governors Expense	302.18
Social Security Tax	91.32
Miscellaneous	196.98
Convention Expense	133.33
Cost of Decals, Emblems sold	83.41
Corporation Filing Fee	55.00
	<hr/>

Total Expenses	\$7,406.32
Net Deficit Before Depreciation	(2910.85)
Depreciation	230.52
Net Deficit for the period:	\$3,141.37

This year, as of August 1, 1957, we started off owing about \$237.00. To pay our way we drew money out of our Capital fund and we threw in additional money that we collected at our reunion. However our reunion was not a profitable venture and we are again behind the eight ball. Instead of making money we lost and quite a bit. So, where does that leave us.

... Group Insurance Plan

as Blanket Payor, remits to the insurance company the total of all premiums due. It is through this method of collection that rates are kept low for Group Coverage insurance.

11) How Do These Group Rates Compare With The Usual Forms Of Straight Life Insurance?

The "Cooperative" buying power of the organization makes it possible for these rates to be considerably lower than other plans.

12) WILL I RECEIVE A POLICY?

Yes, you will receive a policy and not just a certificate. This policy contains a copy of the Master Agreement your organization has with the insurance company.

13) MAY I NAME MY OWN BENEFICIARY?

You designate your beneficiary in your application and you have the right to change this designation upon written request.

14) What will GROUP INSURANCE DO?

It enables you to insure now when you are most eligible and when your age is low, which factor determines the cost of insurance. Any other insurance you may have can be stabilized by adding this low cost protection.

15) What must I do to QUALIFY?

Determine the amount of insurance you want within the maximum limit for your age. Fill out the application and mail it to your organization headquarters. If medical examination is necessary, you will be informed thru your organization on how to proceed. Applications may be sent at any time after an agreement is in force, but the effective date is other than on regular due dates, then a pro rata premium will be charged to the next regular due date.

PAYMENTS:

On or about January 5th, 1958 you will receive your premium notice along with your dues notice. We will handle both at the same time.

We here at National will set up a separate bank account to handle all the money involved. The insurance company will

handle all the insurance details.

If anyone wants to start participating earlier, that is 1957, we have arranged with the insurance company to start this plan immediately.

If you have any additional questions other than we have attempted to think of, please let us know and we will answer them.

RATE TABLE

Class AA one year term annual premiums per \$1,000 of insurance

Age	Annual	Semi-Annual	Quart.
17	5.94	3.00	1.51
18	5.97	3.01	1.52
19	6.00	3.03	1.53
20	6.03	3.05	1.54
21	6.06	3.06	1.55
22	6.09	3.08	1.55
23	6.13	3.10	1.56
25	6.21	3.14	1.58
24	6.17	3.12	1.57
26	6.25	3.16	1.59
27	6.29	3.18	1.60
28	6.34	3.20	1.62
29	6.39	3.23	1.63
30	6.45	3.26	1.64
31	6.52	3.29	1.66
32	6.61	3.34	1.69
33	6.73	3.40	1.72
34	6.88	3.47	1.75
35	7.06	3.57	1.80
36	7.27	3.67	1.85
37	7.51	3.79	1.92
38	7.78	3.93	1.98
39	8.09	4.09	2.06
Participating			
40	\$8.43	\$4.26	\$2.15
41	8.81	4.45	2.25
42	9.25	4.67	2.36
43	9.72	4.91	2.48
44	10.23	5.17	2.61
45	10.77	5.44	2.75
46	11.48	5.80	2.93
47	12.24	6.18	3.12
48	13.09	6.61	3.34
49	14.05	7.10	3.58
50	15.07	7.61	3.84
51	16.16	8.16	4.12
52	17.34	8.76	4.42
53	18.59	9.39	4.74
54	19.97	10.08	5.09
55	21.45	10.83	5.47
56	23.04	11.64	5.88
57	24.84	12.54	6.33
58	26.81	13.54	6.84
59	29.00	14.65	7.40
60	31.45	15.88	8.02
61	33.98	17.16	8.66
62	36.73	18.55	9.37
63	39.69	20.04	10.12
64	42.92	21.67	10.94
65	46.40	23.43	11.83
No Disability			

PLEASE FILL OUT AND MAIL TODAY TO 9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASS'N, BOX 66, LIVINGSTON, N. J.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GROUP INSURANCE

I am interested in the Group type insurance plan. . .

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE

I wish to be enrolled with payment of (1957 dues) (1958 dues).

Please send Insurance form. I am interested in \$..... of insurance.

PLEASE REMEMBER: ONLY FOR ACTIVE ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ONLY. (LADIES AUXILIARY INCLUDED).

This means that we will have to sell some of our Mutual Funds to pay for current operating costs until the middle of January.

What can we do? Three (3) things:

1) Ask delinquent members to pay their 1957 dues now. . .

2) Ask our membership to forward their 1958 dues now. . .

3) Sell some of our Mutual Funds now. . .

WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW. . . .

Mail Bag

60th Infantry

F. Company: Captain John W. Miller, Hq. M. D. W. C-4 Section, Bldg T-7, Washington 25, D.C. (former 1st Sergeant of F. Company) has recently renewed his active status with the Association.

C & D Companies:

Thanks to Mrs. Clem Haberman we have the following news item to report. THE THIRD ANNUAL BUFFET SUPPER AND BEER PARTY OF C & D COMPANIES WAS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 28th ON LONG ISLAND AND WAS A HOWLING SUCCESS.

It all started three years ago with a desire to have a private party for the C Company men who had kept in touch with one another these many years. From just a few men getting together like Topsy it "jes grewed." Before we knew why or how it happened we ended up hiring a hall, an orchestra and providing food and beer for 75 people. There's no official organization. Just a few hard-working friends like Dora and Frank Surm (C Company) who are usually the instigators, and who willingly advance the money to hire the hall. Then a self-appointed committee buckles down to get them "off the hook." Men, like Harry Haberman, Joe Sherin, John De Sienna, Joe Iannotti and Tony Matuza of C. Co. and John Morris, Lew Mazurek and Joe Guardino of D Company outdid themselves this year in rounding up this merry group.

This was the largest crowd yet, consisting of some 94 buddies and their wives and friends, and some ex-medics, had the time of their lives. We even boasted a Spanish-American War veteran, who later was unmasked as the father of M. McCormick of D Company. Our mailing list grows each year and each year many new faces are seen cavorting around the tables. Among them were Dan McManus, Mike Rogoff, Bill Carrington and Murray Rebeck. Special mention should be made of Mr. and Mrs. Truitt (Rebel) Davis who traveled all the way up from Georgia, as did the Jack Ferrys from Philadelphia. As the last strains of the orchestra faded away at 2. A.M., I heard enthusiastic plans being discussed for the next time.

It is wonderful to see these guys get together—15 years older, 15 pounds heavier, and 15 percent baldier, but no loss of enthusiasm. The only other change I could notice was a softer attitude towards a few of the 47th who claimed they came to add "color to the affair! We won't mention the "morning after" when passing years finally took their toll! It's a small price to pay for such a nostalgic get-together and we are looking forward to Next year and more new faces."

I hope my proud report will be of interest to all 60th men, and in particular to those who unfortunately could not attend, or whose addresses we do not as yet have. For those who wish to get on this mailing list contact, Harry Haberman of 1063 Robin Road, Franklin Square, N.Y. . . .

Service Company:

A recent note from Thomas J. Billings of 1167 N. Chatsworth Street, St. Paul 30, Minn . . . Thomas was given a nudge about

(Continued on page 3)

Park Dedicated in Honor of Sergeant Edwin Ira Tansey

New York Chapter Sends Delegation to Represent
9th Infantry Division Association



The above group participated in the Sergeant Tansey Memorial Service in Yonkers, N. Y.

At Chicago in 1956, Kenneth Grosse happened to mention to a group of the New York lads that there was some talk of dedicating a park in honor of Ira Tansey. It was not till June 14th, 1957 that we were notified that this ceremony was going to take place and that the entire New York Chapter was alerted to attend. After some very fast telephoning and hurried get-togethers a group was rounded up and sent on its way towards Yonkers.

Fortunately the weather was excellent and a fine group showed up at the ceremonial site. Among those attending were: Frank Fazio, James Haroutian, Kenny Grosse, Max Umansky, Vincent Iannucci, Irving Feinberg, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Higgins, Mr. and Mrs. J. McInerney and Dom Miele. A picture of the above with Mr. and Mrs. Tansey, parents of Sergeant Tansey is shown below.

Sergeant Edwin Ira Tansey was killed fighting with Company K of the 39th Infantry at Kasserine Pass, in North Africa. Perhaps some of the old Fort Bragg men will remember Sergeant Tansey as one of the finest ball players the 39th had and in addition was one of the best athletes in the Falcon area.

The honor guard was composed of Frank Fazio and Dom Miele

who carried our colors surrounded by an American Legion rifle squad.

We might point out that Kenny Grosse did himself proud eulogizing the merits of Sergeant Tansey. The Division Association presented the parents of Sgt. Tansey with a copy of "Eight Stars To Victory" and made them honorary members of our Association. The presentation was made by Stanley Cohen, National Secretary.

Among some of the honored guests were: Mayor Kristensen, Monsignor Arthur G. Keane, City Manager Charles L. Curran and many other local Yonkers dignitaries.

For those who live in or near the Yonkers area, this park is located at the intersection of Stanley Avenue near Ludlow street. We might also point out that perhaps no better recognition could be made of Sergeant Tansey. He was a fine soldier, a wonderful athlete, and had many friends as was evidenced by the vast group that turned out to participate in these ceremonies.

Printed below is a picture of Councilman Kenneth Grosse and Edwina Tansey, (Sergeant Tansey's daughter) looking up at the sign which reads: "Tansey Memorial Park and Playground."



Ken Grosse and Edwina Tansey unveil Memorial Tansey sign.

MAIL BAG

the outfit from Fred and Selma Golub. . .

B Company:

Arthur Sesholtz of 4112 Hillcrest Road, Richmond, Virginia . . Art was with B Co. and was wounded after the Remagen bridge campaign. Art is the Senior Vice Commander of the Jewish War Veterans, Department of Virginia.

D Company:

Thanks to Paul D. Clark who stopped in Buffalo to see an old friend, the Association now has a new member in Chester Mutowski. Thanks Paul and welcome Chester . . .

A Company:

Clinton A. Daley of 15½ Temple Street, Auburn, Maine is a new member of our group. For the record, Clinton is a married man with Kathleen, Katherine, and Jack part of his chow line. Clinton is feeding his family doing his chores as a barber. Incidentally Clinton tells a very interesting story about how he learned of the Association. One of Clinton's buddies or customers as he calls them from the 60th was in getting a haircut and spoke about the association. Clinton asked for info—wrote to us, next thing a new member. Clinton wants to say hello to Vandry Moore, and Isaac Brown. Clinton ends his note with the following; "To me the 9th was the finest overseas. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping me to locate John Dechant. He was one of my men in France. I've tried every way to locate him for twelve years. Thanks to you I finally have at least a lead to his whereabouts." Editorial note: This kind friend for telling him about the Association.

Division Headquarters:

Edward Sullivan (G-4 Section) sends us a note telling of his new job as an Assistant manager in a super market. It seems that of report spells, It sure is nice to work for nice people. . .

H Company, 39 Infantry:

Virgil Kist of 73 St. Marks Ave, Brooklyn, N.Y. another new name on our roster thanks a our reunions and his vacations have not been seeing eye to eye. He hopes to make one soon.

1st Bn 47th:

Dan Quinn the old medic, recently showed us a picture that appeared in the Newark Sunday News of Dr. Hyman Copleman a former Regimental Surgeon of the 1st and 3rd Bn. 47th Infantry. . .

New names from our mail bag:

Henry Eggert of Tobyhanna, Penn., a former 376 AAA man writes about an AAA reunion any takers. . . G. J. Schafer of 922 Lynwood Blvd, Nashville, Tenn., saw an article about Division in Veterans Report contacted us. . . George Benson of 805 Hardin, Columbia, Mo., saw note about Association in American Legion. . Leonard Kane of 30410 Puritan, Livonia, Mich., saw our notice in VFW. . Now a new member. . Len is a mechanical engineer and has four children, Lenord 13, Sandra 11, Michael 9, Barbara 5. . . Robert S. Apel of 1104 W. Howard Lane, Wawwatazo 13, Wisconsin is a new member of our

President J. Clouser Visits Columbus Chapter



From Fort Carson

The Ninth Division has begun its planning for its reorganization under the Atomic Concept (ROCID). When the division arrived at Fort Carson it received a warning to expect this reorganization in the spring of 1958. Fort Carson officials have learned that this reorganization may be required slightly earlier than was planned originally. Final directives from Washington are expected to arrive at Fort Carson through normal military channels in the near future. No information has been received concerning any other change in the status of any Fort Carson unit.

The new ROCID Division (ROCID stands for Reorganization of (Continued on page 4)

group. . . George Carroll of 92 High Street, Thomaston, Conn., is a new member. George has a big house full of Beverly who is 6, Robert who is 5, Kathleen who is 18 months and Christina who is months old. George is self employed on his own chicken ranch.

34th FA Bn

Forrest F. Barefoot tells us that he is back in the Artillery again after more than seven years with the Medics. This time with the 246th F.A. M'sl Bn., Fort Sill. He tells us that the assignment is very interesting and he is looking forward to spending the rest of his army career in Missile work.

Ivan W. Sanders Dead 9th Division Soldier Named 'Mr. Fixit' by Ernie Pyle

IOWA CITY, Iowa, July 17 (AP)—Ivan W. Sanders of Vinton, named "Mr. Fixit" by the late Ernie Pyle, died in a hospital here Monday. His age was 56.

He met Mr. Pyle in Normandy during World War II. In his book, "Brave Men," the writer described Mr. Sanders as a "remarkable character—Mr. Fixit of the Ninth Division."

Mr. Sanders became known as the soldier who could fix anything while serving with the division in Africa, Sicily and Europe.

To H. Rini — Sorry to hear about your loss of a loved one—Our sympathy.

On August 3rd and 4th, 1957, President of the Association visited with the men and women of the Columbus, Ohio Chapter. Shown in the picture above are: (left to right) Paul Plunkett, President of Columbus Chapter; Jeanne "Corky" Corke (Corky is connected with the Ohio Federal Savings & Loan Bank since 1947 and is the leading light of the Chapter acting as secretary-bookkeeper and master of the files. In addition Corky is taking an active part in the 1958 details). William Brabson (former 60th Infantry-B Company). Bill is now connected with WLW-Columbus TV station outlet who is going to handle the publicity for the convention. Richard Corbin, connected with the Columbus Police Department, who will serve as parade marshal and help in arranging Memorial Day Services; Glenn O. Moore, member of the National Board of Governors and is the 1958 Convention General Chairman and Treasurer and John Clouser. Standing is Richard McClure the Deshler-Hilton Sales manager. Unfortunately Paul Keller the 2nd Vice-President who will have charge of registration and who will be the editor of the Program or "Journal" was on maneuvers with the National Guard and was therefore unable to meet with the committee. Richard Macomber, who will be the chairman of the Entertainment Committee, was having a battle royal with his dentist and was unable to attend.

The Deshler-Hilton was finally selected as the host hotel for the convention, and we have been assured by the convention committee that they are going to be certain that every consideration will be given towards making 1958 a banner year.

The Columbus Chapter recently presented to its members the Navy Log picture of the 9th Division's activities in the Cherbourg campaign. In the near future additional articles will be printed regarding the Columbus Reunion. Why not start today to make Columbus in '58. . . Thursday, July 31, Friday, August 1st and Saturday, August 2nd. . . These are the dates. . . .

Hey man did
you pay your '57
dues yet!

Sergeant Steven Budrick is forever on the lookout for material that has poignant values for men of the Ninth who remember Remagen. So we would therefore like to present this epistle to our readers.

Bridge of Death

The Germans threw everything they had at the Remagen Bridge. And stationed at the bridge, the whole time, were the MP's

I was sitting at the bar, sipping beer. Larry, my favorite bartender on Cherokee Strip, had set one up on the house. Half way through my free one I heard this guy popping off again, telling how rough he had it in the damned army; the stupid drill sergeants, the ninety day wonders who rated a salute, and last, but by no means least, was the vituperation he spewed on the henhouse MP's. The outfit who were always behind the front lines, way behind.

And never saw combat.

I had heard this character sounding off before, as we sat next to each other bending elbows. I used to condescend, and say, when he got going on the war and the damned army, "There's always somebody that's a no good b----- in the army." And his stock reply was always, "And for my money it was the damned MP's Bar none."

It was a hot August afternoon, and I wasn't in a particularly benevolent or tolerant mood. On the other hand, I wasn't trying to defend all MP's. I know what some of them are like. I was an MP some years ago, in Manila and Shanghai, with the 31st Infantry Regiment. I was fed up with his vilification of men who wore the blue and white brassard on their arms, and I was irked by some of his false and ignorant statements, which, if nothing else, proved one thing, he had never seen any action.

I proceeded to straighten him out, selecting the bloody episode at Remagen. And suddenly he ran out of descriptive adjectives. It stopped him cold.

It was 3 o'clock, on the afternoon of March 7, 1945, when General Omar Bradley telephoned the Supreme Allied Commander, General Eisenhower, at Rheims. When Ike was informed that the Remagen bridge had been captured, he was elated. The capture of the strategic bridge changed the course of military action in Europe. And by nightfall, Remagen had become the focal point of action, in what proved to be the biggest break since D-Day, 6th of June, 1944.

The glory of capturing the bridge went to advance elements of the 1st battalion, 310 Infantry, 78th division, attached to the 9th Armored division. Storming the two bridge towers, they killed or captured the German machine-gunners left behind by the Krauts, fleeing to the east bank of the Rhine.

All along the great river, the once invincible Nazi army was falling back in frantic confusion, blowing up bridges all along the Rhine, in their wake, trying to stem the Yank juggernaut. But someone, to use the army vernacular, had fouled up at Remagen, and the breech was made.

When Adolph Hitler was informed of the debacle at Remagen, he was furious. He sent for his Chief of Staff, Field Marshal Von Rundstedt. The Marshal's excuse made no difference. There was no acceptable excuse with the Fuehrer. In a fit of uncontrollable anger, he ripped the decorations from von Rundstedt's uniform.

Five subordinate officers, directly responsible for the conduct of the war in the area, were executed for dereliction of duty in failing to destroy the bridge.

Not since Napoleon's forces swept across the Rhine at Ulm, more than a century ago, in 1805, had the historic Rhine been spanned by a foe. It proved to be the turning point of the war in Europe. But the hard pressed Germans dug in east of Flak Hill, retaliating at long range, laying siege, a siege unparalleled for the area involved. A siege that took a staggering toll in American casualties.

It was 1900 hours, March 7, 1945, when Maj. Claire Thurston, provost marshal of the 9th Infantry division, reported to Gen. Craig for instruction. The division commander ordered Thurston to move his men out ahead of the division, mark the route for the 47th regimental combat teams, the first large force scheduled to cross at dawn the next morning.

"I'll never forget that night," said Major (now Lieut. Col.) Thurston. "It was a cold March night, and all along the winding road, we were harassed by snipers, who tried to ambush our men—the mined road. It was an extremely difficult task. We arrived at the bridge around midnight."

By mutual arrangement with the 9th Armor division provost marshal, Capt. (now Major) John Hyde, and his platoon took over the west approach to the bridge. Thurston and his company of 200 MP's worked the east approach and the entire length of the bridge.

Shortly before dawn, March 8, 1945, the 47th Regimental Combat Team, 78th Division, attached to the 9th Armor, began their historic march across the bridge.

Said Thurston: "Apparently German artillery spotters knew when there was any troop movement on the bridge, because the moment they set foot on the bridge, the Nazi's, on the other side of Flak Hill cut loose with every thing they had.

"It was the most terrific sustained assault I've seen since D-Day. The mere crossing of the bridge was a hair-raising experience. The moment a man set foot on the bridge it became a battle for survival. Many never reached the other side. The troops had to keep moving across the bridge of death, but my boys had to stay alive."

Corporal Bruce Moyer, a young non-com from Detroit, was splicing a communication cable when there was a direct hit on the bridge by German artillery.

He stood there, spraddled legged, an amazed look on his grimy face. He looked down at his hands and saw he had only a three foot stub of wire left.

"Darned it," he cried, "those b----- can really call their shots."

But instead of running for cover, he resumed his task, completing his assignment.

Said Thurston, who witnessed the incident, "He was one of the bravest men I've ever seen."

Some of the soldiers had not

been under such intense fire as they encountered when they began running the twelve hundred and forty-four gauntlet of death. Some would freeze at the wheel, some panicked and jumped out, seeking refuge under jeeps and six by six's. Thurston's MP's would urge them on. When a convoy driver was hit, an MP would take over and finish the trip, and then return to his post on the bridge.

The German high command ordered the bridge destroyed at all cost, as the siege went on unabated. Suicidal attempts were made by the Luftwaffe pilots as they came sweeping from the east side of Flak Hill. The 82nd anti-aircraft downed four of the first attackers from the air. P-38's engaged reckless flying Messerschmidts and low flying Stukas, shooting down 26 enemy aircraft. And the dead game Yanks kept pouring across the bridge.

The desperation tactics of the enemy enabled them to make an occasional hit, and as Maj. Thurston put it, "it would vibrate like a banjo string, and I thought it was surely going down. But it didn't."

Every five minutes depth charges were dropped into the river and detonated to keep frog men and subs from getting under the bridge. High powered lights played across the murky Rhine, constantly on the alert for floating objects.

Underwater demolition swimmers, trained by Count Skorzeny, who gained fleeting fame when he attempted to infiltrate our lines with English speaking saboteurs, came down the river, towing high

From Fort Carson

Current Infantry Division) is the result of more than a decade of study and tests by the Army to improve the Army's ability to fight effectively under conditions of atomic warfare without losing the capability to conduct conventional warfare.

The new infantry division has the following advantage over its older counterpart: increased front-line fighting strength; increased mobility through Army Aviation and cross-country vehicles; atomic capability in the Artillery; and greatly improved firepower.

The new infantry division has a strength of 13,748—3,707 less than the old triangle division. The Ninth Infantry Division now has a strength of approximately 16,000, including approximately 10,000 trainees. In the pentomic division there are five battle groups, each administratively self-contained and air-transportable organized as follows:

Each battle group has a headquarters company, mortar battery, and four rifle companies. The division retains its tank battalion, but the battle groups lack tank companies that were common to the former regiments. A reconnaissance battalion replaces the former reconnaissance company to employ fully the division's nuclear firepower, and the artillery is completely reorganized to include an atomic capability.

During FY 1957, seven of the Army's infantry, airborne and armored divisions completed reorganization. The new division structures are being phased to insure the Army's over-all combat readiness. By 1 July 1958, all divisions will be reorganized along the Pentomic lines.

Carson Opens Museum

Carson's new museum, which enshrines the traditions and activities of the Army both in this area and throughout the world, was formally opened in a ceremony at which Maj. Gen. Harry P. Storke, commander of Carson and the 9th Inf. Div. officiated.

Major points of interest in the structure include displays depicting the soldier of the past, present and future.

Histories of the 9th Inf. Div. and the famous soldier-explorer Christopher "Kit" Carson, also are displayed.

New Info Chief

The commander of one of the most publicity conscious Army units in the U.S. was named this week to direct all Army information activities, beginning October 1.

Maj. Gen. Harry P. Storke, whose 9th Infantry Div. at Fort

Carson, Colo., has garnered more than its share of national newspaper space in the past year, will succeed Maj. Gen. Guy S. Meloy Jr. as Army chief of information. Gen. Meloy has been named deputy Fourth Army commander at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., succeeding Maj. Gen. Mark McClure, who retires September 30.

During War II, Gen. Storke served in Italy and Sicily in various II Corps artillery posts. He was assistant director of the Joint Staff after the war and was also a member of the NATO standing Group.

In 1952 he directed exercise Desert Rock IV, after commanding III Corps Artillery at Fort Lewis, Wash. He took command of the 9th Div. in Europe in June 1956 and brought it back to Carson the following November. He is 52 and a member of the USMA Class of 1956.

explosives in fabric bags. Equipped with oxygen tanks, they could stay under water for an hour. But doughboys and MPs on the bridge with the aid of powerful searchlights spotted them. And those who weren't shot or drowned, were driven ashore and captured.

Maj. Thurston, who made as many as thirty trips a day across the hotly contested bridge, had to seek replacements after the third day. Gen. Craig authorized him to select 25 men from each regiment of the 9th Infantry Division. These doughboys donned MP brassards during battle.

This tunnel was also the collecting point for POWs. When approximately one hundred prisoners had been taken, they were run across the bridge to the west side.

Said Thurston: "There was no prodding the Germans when they set foot on that bridge. They ran so fast the MPs could hardly keep up with them.

MP private Irving Hughes, of Hyattsville, Md., was working the west end of the bridge. Time and

again he had gone out and brought in wounded. One evening he saw four engineers hit by a shell. Hughes was near the point of exhaustion. He looked around, asking for volunteers. But there were no takers. Wearily he climbed into the jeep and went out by himself and brought the wounded men in.

Pfc. Albert Steadman was decorated for his part on the Remagen bridge. But like Sgt. Daniel's and ten others of his company, the award was posthumous.

On the 17th of March, two pontoon bridges were put in service. The bridge had been turned over to the Engineers for repairs. Major Thurston was sitting in his jeep on Flak Hill, when his orderly suddenly shouted, "Look, Major, the bridge is falling."

The Provo turned his head in time to see the battered structure settling into the Rhine, pulling eight of the engineers with it into the icy waters, drowning them.

(To be continued)

9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Stan Cohen, National Sec.-Treas.
Post Office Box 66
Livingston, New Jersey

Enclosed please find 1957 dues for:

Name Serial No.

Street Address

City Zone State

I was a (Battery member of (Company Regiment 9th Div.

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member	\$4.00 per year ()
Sustaining Member	()
THREE YEAR MEMBER	\$10.00 ()
Life Membership	\$50.00 ()
Octofoil Auto License Disc	\$ 1.00 ()
Eight Stars to Victory	\$ 3.50 ()
(Pictorial History of 9th Div. in Action)	
Ladies Auxiliary Member	\$1.50 ()
Decals	\$.25 apiece — 5 for \$1.00
Combat Route Map	\$.50
60th Infantry History	\$1.00

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Explanation of Dues:

Non-Chapter member all payment of dues to Nat'l. Chapter Member: \$1.00 for chapter, \$3.00 to Nat'l. Ladies Auxiliary \$.50 to chapter, \$1.00 to Nat'l. Three Year: \$3.00 to chapter, \$7.00 to Nat'l. Life Member: \$12.50 to chapter, \$37.50 to Nat'l. Sustaining Member: Chapter to receive 1/3 of amount over \$3.50, balance to National.